

ABSTRACT

G-IIC-241

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(196) 1767 (mound), 1902 (monument)  
Springs, Pennsylvania vicinity  
Public/private

Milestone No. ---(196) and its mound of earth mark Mason and Dixon's 178th mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 16 inches high above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when the site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when the new monument was added to the center of the mound during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, replacing the original wood <sup>by then</sup> post/no longer in evidence). The mound, now almost imperceptible, would have to be considered altered and deteriorated, either through surface grading or erosion, and is not measurable. On the national and state levels, No. ---(196) and its mound are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)  
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE, 178th Mile Post and Heap of Earth

AND/OR COMMON  
MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 196)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)  
STREET & NUMBER off the west side of Dorsey Hotel Road/T-442

CITY, TOWN Springs ☒ VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 12  
STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<b>X not applicable</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)  
NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:  
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE, zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)  
COURTHOUSE, Liber #:  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE G-IIC-241 entered 9/4/81  
FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis STATE Maryland 21401

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT (monument)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED (mound)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED (monument)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE (mound & monument)
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED (mound)	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. --- (196) and its low flat mound of earth mark a point on the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary 178 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line. The monument was a new dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top when added to the mound in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 16 inches above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when the site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side. The mound, now almost imperceptible, would have to be considered altered and deteriorated, either through surface grading or erosion, and is not measurable.

The area here is high (about 2340 feet elevation), comparatively level, wooded, sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 3 of Garrett County, MD, and Elk Lick Township of Somerset County, PA; about 1 mile southeast of the village of Springs, PA; about 2 miles north-northeast of the town of Grantsville, MD; at a point about 400 feet west of Dorsey Hotel Road/T-442, at the south edge of the old grassed-over pipeline, in a lightly wooded grove mostly of huge maple trees; about 3 feet west of a large flat boulder, about 4 feet north of an old <sup>east-west</sup> fence. It cannot be seen from any road, but easily from the old pipeline, all seasons, and is protected by the inconspicuous site, boulder and fencing.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, somewhat florid, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground, thus eliminating the need for a concrete foundation. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex are all clear and intact; although there is minor chipping along the northeast vertical edge, and discoloration on the north and east sides from lichen.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for descriptions of the replacement and additional monuments set by the 1900-03 Resurvey and Mason and Dixon's original cairns)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				boundary surveying

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SPECIFIC DATES    1767 (mound).  
                      1902 (monument)

~~BUCKLE ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon  
 SURVEYORS

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. --- (196) and its mound of earth are significant on the national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This site was <sup>originally</sup> surveyed and marked with a cairn by Mason and Dixon in 1767, and the new Cockeysville marble monument added to the center of the remains of the cairn in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. --- (196) and the mound (now <sup>almost</sup> imperceptible) are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Grantsville (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1946 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

NOTE: monument location not shown on quadrangle; see 1900-03

Resurvey engineer's map, Plate LXVI

UTM reference (approx.): zone 17, easting 65944, northing 439835

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE MarylandCOUNTY GarrettSTATE PennsylvaniaCOUNTY Somerset**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey 10/11/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

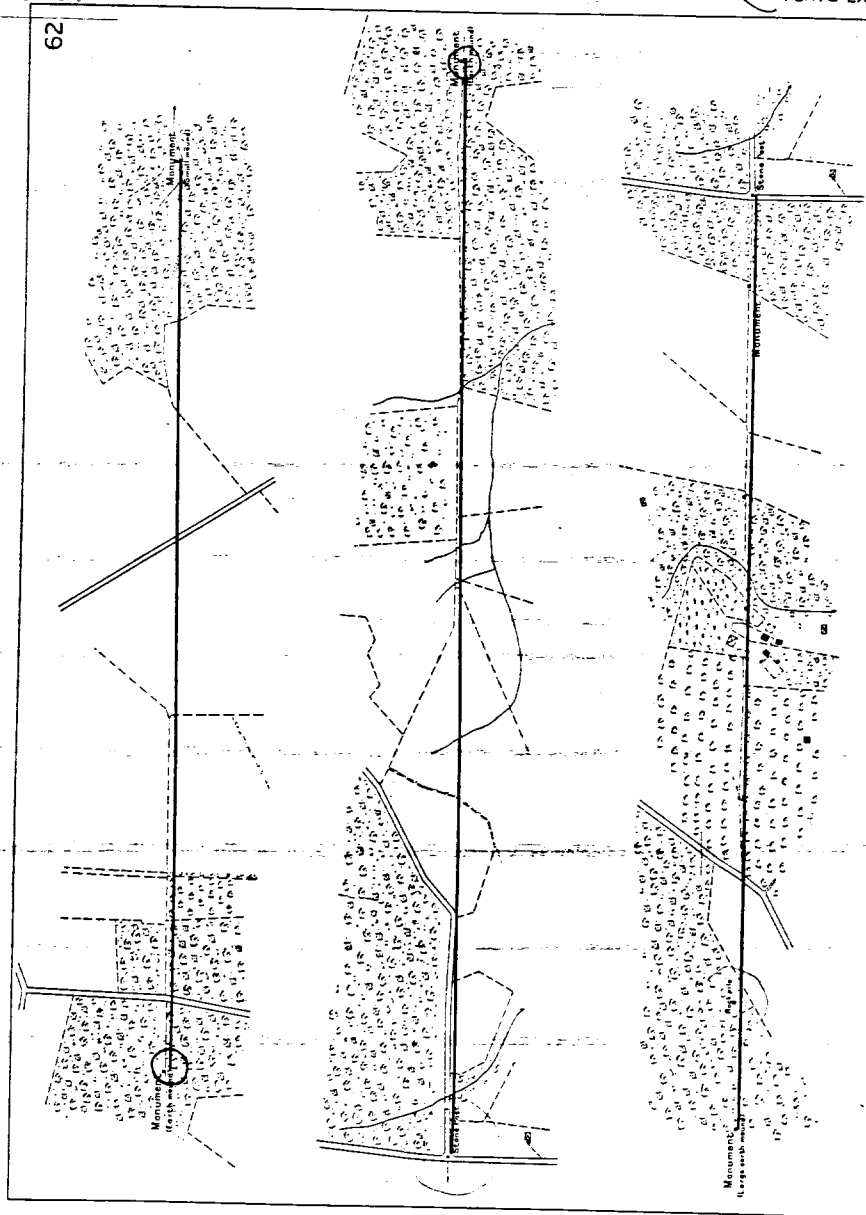
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

B.-II-241  
 MASON EDGON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. - (196)

RESURVEY OF MASON-DIXON LINE.

(201) (196) (196)  
 PLATE LXVI.



SCALE: 1" = 1000'  
 N

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE, MD-PA, COGNATE MARKERS

G-TC-241

MILESTONE NO. --- (196)

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC SURVEY

GRANTSVILLE QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND PENNSYLVANIA

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOG) AT H  
1946 PHOTO REV. 1974 SCALE: 1"=2000'

CONFLUENCE 14 MI  
L'ESTONBURG (JUNC PA 53) 8.8 MI

10'

658

659

